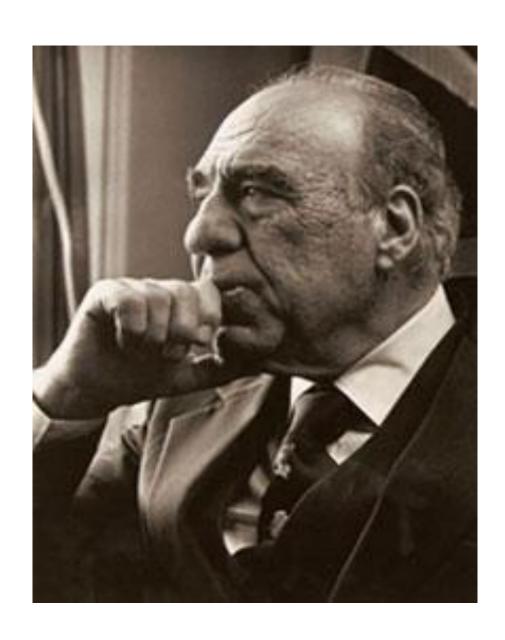
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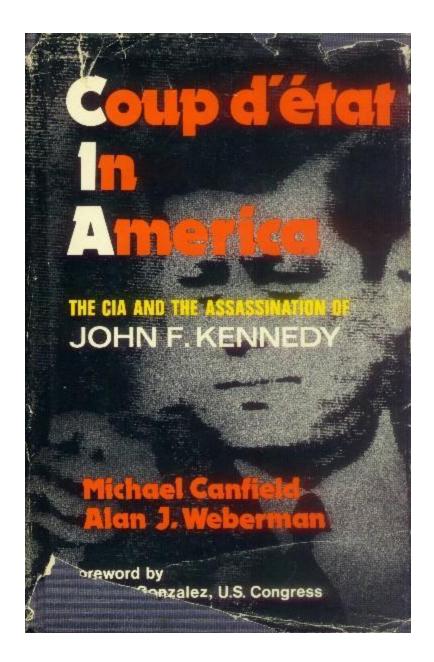
COUP D'ÉTAT IN AMERICA THE CIA AND THE ASSASSINATION OF JOHN F. KENNEDY

MICHAEL CANFIELD, GERRY PATRICK HEMMING and ALAN WEBERMAN

July 9, 2010 Edition

FORWARD BY CONGRESSMAN HENRY B. GONZALEZ





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The following is the forward Congressman Henry B. Gonzalez of San Antonio, Texas, wrote for the first edition of *Coup D'Etat in America*.

On November 21, 1963, I accompanied my good friend President John Kennedy to my home city of San Antonio where he was very warmly and enthusiastically received. I had wanted, and the people of my Congressional District had wanted him to stay longer in San Antonio and to dedicate the new John F. Kennedy High School there. The high school

is in the poorest of the ten San Antonio school districts, and overwhelming Hispanic. The President promised me he would come back to San Antonio to dedicate the school. I had tried to dissuade the White House schedulers from including Dallas on the itinerary because of the climate of hate which prevailed there at the time against the President. But then Democratic Governor John Connally told us in the Democratic Congressional delegation the purpose of the trip was to raise funds for the 1964 Presidential election. So, after San Antonio, I continued with the Presidential party to Houston, and then to Dallas where the President died. I wound up at Parkland Hospital and spent what seemed interminable hours in the confusion there, and one point, finding Jacqueline Kennedy in a hall, sitting alone as in a trance. I happened to be in front of the room where the President's body lay. I suppose I really had questions from the start as to why he died, who killed him, and what directions had the bullets come? I was in car number four of the motorcade, and distinctly heard three shots. However, I wanted very much, as did most Americans, to accept the official findings, especially those of the Warren Commission, despite the fact that there were many questions being raised, among them rumors and speculations which I thought were too fantastic to believe.

It was not until the matter involving Vice President Spiro Agnew in September 1973, and then the 1974 impeachment hearings that my suspicions became sufficiently aroused regarding the death of President Kennedy. Some of the Watergate witnesses testified to the effect that there was great animosity against the President among those involved in the Bay of Pigs fiasco - to the point that some were interested in taking the greatest retaliation possible against him. Also, I couldn't understand how an "expert gunman" like OSWALD could miss his target when he had a clear shot at General Edwin Walker shortly before November 22, 1963.

At the time of the publication of the first edition of *Coup D'Etat in America* (1975) I was urging the enactment of my House Resolution (H. Res. 204) calling for the establishment of a select committee for the purpose of studying the assassination of President Kennedy, U.S. Senator Robert Kennedy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, and the attempted assassination of Governor George Wallace. The purpose of such a study was, of course, to determine if we could prevent further national decisions by bullets, rather than by ballots, and the detrimental impact on our democratic and governmental processes. Subsequently, in the late 1976 a select committee was forming in the U.S. House for the purpose of studying President Kennedy's and Dr. King's deaths with the House Speaker naming a colleague of ours as chairman. The new chairman, as well as the Speaker himself, planned to leave Congress at the end of 1976 - just three months away! This is the only time in the House's history a "lame duck" was appointed the chairman of a committee.

In January 1977 I was faced with the challenge of having to defend the need to reestablish the select committee in the new Congress. (Select committees die at the end of each Congress and have to be legislated back into existence if they continue their work.) Unfortunately, the former chairman and former colleague had placed a staff director in charge who had taken some actions which left the chances for reconstitution of the committee shaky. After getting the committee reestablished, but with a limited initial budget, the new Speaker named me as Assassination Committee Chairman. I resigned shortly thereafter when the House leadership failed to support me in the firing of the staff director. Later, under another chairman, within a few days of assuming the chair, the staff director was finally fired. The committee spent \$6 million and issued reports which were inconclusive about what happened in respect to the assassination of President Kennedy and Dr. King.

Since the mid-1970's, people from throughout the country - pathologists, writers, social scientists - have shared with me their own private investigations. Among the writers I have gotten to know and who have shared with me their investigation of the John F. Kennedy assassination are Michael Canfield and A.J. Weberman. In this new edition of *Coup D'état in America*, Canfield and ajweberman continue to offer important research in our important quest, as a people, to learn the truth regarding the death of President Kennedy. Our quest has been a long one, and hopefully we are coming to the end of it soon. Murder will out.

Henry B. Gonzalez U.S. Representative, Washington, D.C.

HENRY B. GONZALEZ

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December 18, 1996

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FILE REP

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Mr. A. J. Weberman 318 Third Avenue - 520 New York, New York 10010

Dear Mr. Weberman:

Thank you for your letter of December 1, 1996, addressed to Ms. Gail Beagle who is no longer on my staff. Please know that I have noted with interest that you have established a site on the World Wide Web that contains much of the information in Coup D'Etat in America.

I am honored that you are using the introduction which I wrote to the text in 1992. As I do not have any additional comments or information to add to my original piece for the book, I would be pleased to have you continue to use the introduction as it appears in the text.

With every good wish, I remain

Henry B. Gonzalez Member of Congress